



**\$34 MILLION IN FEDERAL FUNDS
ALLOCATED FOR ENERGY PROJECTS
Social Security beneficiaries will receive \$250 in May
*Thursday, March 26, 2009***

WASHINGTON, DC- The White House and the U.S. Department of Energy announced their intention to allocate more than \$34 million for energy conservation projects to the government of Puerto Rico and to more than forty Island municipalities as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). According to the Secretary of Energy, Steven Chu, the money is intended for projects geared towards reducing dependency on fossil fuels.

Puerto Rico will receive a total of \$44 million, \$9.5 million of which will be allocated to the State Energy Office. Major beneficiaries include the municipality of San Juan with \$4.3 million; Bayamón with \$2 million; Carolina and Ponce with \$1.7 million each; Caguas with \$1.4 million; and Guaynabo with \$1 million.

Other municipalities slated to receive funding under this program are: Aguada, Aguadilla, Arecibo, Cabo Rojo, Camuy, Canovanas, Cayey, Cidra, Coamo, Corozal, Dorado, Fajardo, Guayama, Gurabo, Hatillo, Humacao, Isabela, Juana Díaz, Juncos, Lares, Las Piedras, Manatí, Mayaguez, Moca, Rio Grande, San Germán, San Lorenzo, San Sebastián, Toa Alta, Toa Baja, Trujillo Alto, Vega Alta, Vega Baja, Yabucoa and Yauco.

"The funds received as part of this effort to promote clean energy and energy efficiency will benefit both large and small municipalities. As part of a larger national effort by the Obama administration, the Puerto Rican government has made it clear that energy efficiency is an urgent priority," Pierluisi said.

In addition, Vice President Joseph Biden reported today that Social Security beneficiaries will receive \$250 by the end of May, also as part of ARRA. More than 700,000 individuals in Puerto Rico will benefit from this initiative.

<http://pierluisi.house.gov>